# AFFIDAVIT OF RICHLAND-GRANT TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE REGARDING THE USE OF FEDERAL HIGH-COST SUPPORT FUNDS AFFIDAVIT FOR ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS ONLY

STATE OF WISCONSIN	)
	) ss.
COUNTY OF GRANT	)

- I, the undersigned, being duly sworn, state as follows:
  - 1. I am the <u>General Manager</u> of Richland-Grant Telephone Cooperative ("Carrier"), Wisconsin Utility Number <u>5080</u>, and FCC Study Area Code <u>330942</u>.
  - 2. I am a corporate officer responsible for certifying Carrier's use of Federal High Cost Support Funds.
  - 3. Carrier is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of § 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, and is eligible to receive universal service support pursuant to § 254(e) of the Act.
  - 4. Carrier files this affidavit in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's order of May 23, 2001, in Docket No. 96-45, which requires states to certify to the Federal Communications Commission that all Federal High-Cost Support within this state be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.
  - 5. Carrier hereby states that it will use the Federal High Cost Support Funds only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to § 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.
  - 6. I hereby certify pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R §54.313(a)(5), §54.313(a)(6), §54.313(h) and §54.318(e) that:
    - a. The Company has established operating procedures designed to facilitate compliance with applicable consumer protection rules.
    - b. The Company has established operating procedures designed to facilitate compliance with service quality standards, which may include customer remedies and improvement plans.
    - c. The Company is able to remain functional in emergency situations as set forth in §54.202(a)(2).
    - d. All of the Company's residential access lines, in all exchanges as of June 1, 2012, exceed the rate floor defined in §54.318. The Company complied with this reporting requirement when it responded to NECA's 2012 Local Rate Floor Data Collection.

6. I hereby state that responses to the attached responses to the three questions are complete and accurate.

Bradley W. Welp

(typed name)

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 274 day of June, 2012.

) Rocker , Notary Public

County, Wisconsin

My Commission Expires March 13, 2014

## **Questions for Wisconsin ETCs**

## **Richland-GrantTelephone Cooperative** (Carrier)

(Company name)

Wisconsin Utility Number: <u>5080</u> FCC Study Area Code: 330942.

### Mark the box with an X for the statement that is true for the Carrier's Wisconsin operations:

Carrier does not receive High Cost Fund support from the federal Universal Service Fund. [Proceed no further.] Carrier does receive High Cost Fund support from the federal Universal Service Fund. [Please answer the following three (3) questions.]

1. What is the amount of federal HCF support received for operations in Wisconsin in 2011 and amount expected to be received in 2012?

**Note:** The HCF support amount includes the mechanisms requiring state certification in 2012 and include: High Cost Loop Support (HCL), Local Switching Support (LSS) and Safety Net Additive (SNA).

2011: 2012: est.

The areas (exchanges) for which this funding is provided:

Blue River, Boaz, Sabin, Soldiers Grove and Gays Mills exchanges

2) High Cost Fund support is provided "for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended." What are the purposes and <u>principal</u> projects for which the monies in question 1 have been or are being used in the exchanges listed above?

#### **Purposes:**

The Company uses USF support to maintain its existing network. These projects will support growth and ongoing upgrade of plant. This includes adding equipment in central offices and remotes for growth or to upgrade equipment, replacing batteries, rectifiers and generators, adding outside plant facilities and replacing worn out cable or placing cable as a result of road moves.

TIME FRAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST
2011	Central Office Equip., Digital Circuit Equip., General Support	
	Assets, Buried Fiber & Copper Cable	
2011	Plant Maintenance & Operating Expenses, Excluding Depreciation	
2012	Central Office Equip., Digital Circuit Equip., General Support	
	Assets, Buried Fiber & Copper Cable (Estimates)	
2012	Plant Maintenance & Operating Expenses, Excluding Depreciation	
	(Estimates)	

3) The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin does not currently require Company to collect and report on certain information for its annual ETC Designation proceeding. What information was not specified for collection in 2011 and required for reporting by Carrier in 2012, corresponding to §54.313(a)(2)-(4)?

The Company was not required to collect or provide a report of:

- Service outages as defined in §54.313(a)(2),
- Unfilled service order requests and attempts to provide service to those potential customers as defined in §54.313(a)(3), or
- Customer complaints per 1,000 connections as defined in §54.313(a)(4).